

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR GLORIA MOLINA

March 31, 2009

We are experiencing the worst recession in decades. As more and more people lose their jobs and search in vain for new ones in a shrinking job market, many families are finding themselves, often for the first time, with inadequate funds to pay their rent/mortgage, keep their utilities, and provide food for their children. This growing problem was underscored by a March 26, 2009 Los Angeles Times article entitled, "Some Jobless Aren't Down And Out Enough To Qualify For Aid".

The Department of Public Social Services reports that there are more than 7,000 families who apply for, but are not approved for CalWORKs assistance on a monthly basis, and more than 19,000 households who apply but for, but are not approved for food stamp benefits each month. Many of these families—and individuals—are denied public benefits because of low asset and income eligibility rules set in current law, and this situation is becoming increasingly common.

I, Therefore, Move that the Board:

1. Direct the Chief Executive Officer and the County's legislative lobbyists, in

MOTION

Molina \_\_\_\_\_

Ridley-Thomas \_\_\_\_\_

Yaroslavsky \_\_\_\_\_

Antonovich \_\_\_\_\_

Knabe \_\_\_\_\_

conjunction with the Department of Public Social Services, to seek temporary waivers and/or other legislative remedies to modify current asset and/or income eligibility limits for the CalWORKs and/or food stamp programs to assist families and individuals severely impacted by the recession, but who do not currently qualify for CalWORKs and/or food stamp benefits.

2. Direct the Chief Executive Officer, in conjunction with the Department of Public Social Service's, to address the housing needs of families and individuals severely impacted by the recession, but who do not currently qualify for public assistance due to current income and/or asset restrictions, to be coordinated with the utilization of homeless prevention funding that the County will receive under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

LO/ld